

## Message Text

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44

ACTION COA-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 SSO-00 INT-08 PM-07 L-03 NSC-07

NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 DOTE-00 DLOS-06 EB-11 COME-00

INRE-00 DRC-01 /081 W

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O 211357Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5360

COMDT COGARD SEVEN MIAMI FLA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, BF

SUBJECT: HIGH SEAS CONFRONTATION

REF: NASSAU 503

BEGIN SUMMARY: AT THE REQUEST OF MINEXTAFF, EMBASSY  
NLO ACCOMPANIED POLICE INVESTIGATING PARTY SENT TO  
INVESTIGATE INCIDENT REPORTED REFTEL. INVESTIGATING  
PARTY WITH NLO BOARDED AND INSPECTED BAHAMIAN F/V MRS.  
EUREKA. STATEMENTS WERE TAKEN FROM EUREKA  
CAPTAIN AND ONE CREW MEMBER WHO WAS HELD ON BOARD MIAMI  
BASED F/V. INSPECTION SHOWED NO SIGNS OF FISH TRAPS  
OR CRAWFISH CATCH. CAPT OF F/V EUREKA AND CREW FELT  
INCIDENT WAS ALL THE RESULT OF A MISTAKE BY F/V FRAM  
AND CONSIDERED INCIDENT OVER. NO PERSONNEL OR EQUIPMENT  
DAMAGE WAS REPORTED BY THE F/V EUREKA. BAHAMIAN POLICE  
OFFICER FEELS THE F/V EUREKA CREW DOES NOT INTEND TO  
PRESS CHARGES. ISSUE APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN SETTLED AT  
SEA. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBASSY NLO ACCOMPANIED ASST COMM. OF POLICE

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(MARINE DIV) L. MAJOR, CHIEF INSPECTOR MINUS AND

PHOTOGRAPHER, MR. SMITH, SENT TO CONDUCT AN ON-SCENE INVESTIGATION OF INCIDENT REPORTED REFTEL. INVESTIGATING PARTY BOARDED CHARTERED AMPHIBIAN AND DEPARTED NASSAU AT APPROX 1000 LOCAL TIME. F/V EUREKA WAS INTERCEPTED AT APPROX 1100 AND BOARDED AT SEA IN THE VICINITY OF WHERE THE INCIDENT WAS REPORTED.

2. CAPTAIN OF F/V EUREKA CONFIRMED HIS POSITION AT THE TIME OF INCIDENT WAS 30 MILES FROM ANDROS ISLAND IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS. COMMISSIONER MAJOR AND NLO CONDUCTED AN INSPECTION OF F/V EUREKA. NO FISHING TRAPS, FLOATS OR EVIDENCE OF STOLEN CRAWFISH CATCH WERE LOCATED.

3. STATEMENTS WERE TAKEN FROM CAPTAIN AND ONE CREW MEMBER, THE LATTER BEING ONE OF THOSE REPORTED HELD ON BOARD FRAM. CAPTAIN OF F/V EUREKA REPORTED LATE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, 19 MARCH, FOUR MEMBERS OF HIS CREW WHO WRE WORKING FROM HIS TWO DINGHIES WERE REQUIRED TO BOARD THE F/V FRAM BY THE CREW OF THE FRAM AT GUNPOINT.

4. THE CAPTAIN OF F/V FRAM ACCUSED CAPTAIN OF F/V EUREKA OF STEALING AND DESTROYING HIS TRAPS AND WAS HOLDING HIS CREW MEMBERS UNTIL HE COULD SEARCH THE F/V EUREKA. CAPTAIN OF F/V EUREKA REPLIED HE WOULD LET COGARD OR POLICE SEARCH HIS BOAT BUT NOT FRAM. AFTER SEVERAL HOURS AT STAND OFF, THE F/V EUREKA CONSENTED TO THE SEARCH.

5. NOTHING WAS FOUND ON BOARD THE F/V EUREKA AND THE CREW MEMBERS HELD ON BOARD FRAM WERE RETURNED TO THE EUREKA. A GIFT OF TWO CASES OF BEER AND TWO CARTONS OF CIGARETTES WAS GIVEN TO F/V EUREKA AND EACH BOAT CONTINUED ON WITH ITS BUSINESS.

6. CREW MEMBERS HELD ON BOARD F/V FRAM WERE NOT HARMED OR HARASSED. CAPTAIN OF F/V EUREKA CONSIDERS IT ALL A BIG MISTAKE AND DID NOT APPEAR INTERESTED IN PURSUING THE INCIDENT FURTHER.

7. ASST COMM MAJOR BELIEVES NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN  
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BY BAHAMIAN FISHERMEN TO PRESECUTE AND WILL RECOMMEND NO FURTHER POLICE INVOLVEMENT. MAJOR OFFERED COPIES OF ALL STATEMENTS TAKEN AND A COPY OF HIS REPORT WHEN PREPARED TO NLO.  
SPIERS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INTERNATIONAL WATERS, FISHING DISPUTES, FISHING GEAR, HIGH SEAS INCIDENTS, POLICE INVESTIGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974NASSAU00507  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740060-0070  
**From:** NASSAU  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740326/aaaaaych.tel  
**Line Count:** 112  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION COA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** NASSAU 503  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
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**Review History:** RELEASED <06 SEP 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <10-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>  
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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** HIGH SEAS CONFRONTATION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PBOR, BF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005